



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
P.O. Box 42560 • Olympia, Washington 98504-2560 • (360) 902-1800

April 1, 2003

Revised: June 18, 2003 (Kittitas County added to infested list)

Revised: July 30, 2003 (Walla Walla County added to infested list)

NOTICE

Restrictions Modified on Hay and Straw Shipped into Canada

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has revised the restrictions on hay and straw shipped into Canada from Washington counties infested with the cereal leaf beetle (*Oulema melanopus*). The revision exempts hay or straw of non-host species such as alfalfa, provided it contains less than five percent host species material. The revision also provides more options for certification including:

1. Storage of hay or straw for at least 90 days between baling and shipping, and
2. Compressing the hay or straw at a pressure equal to or greater than 105 kg/cm³.

The cereal leaf beetle occurs in 16 Washington counties including Adams, Asotin, Clark, Columbia, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Kittitas, Lewis, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla and Whitman.

Host material for cereal leaf beetle includes:

1. Cereals including wheat, durum wheat (*Triticum* spp.), triticale (*X-Triticosecale* spp.), barley (*Hordeum* spp.), oats (*Avena* spp.) and rye (*Secale* spp.). These commodities are also regulated for dwarf bunt and flag smut.
2. Sorghum and Sudan grass (*Sorghum* spp.), rice (*Oryza* spp.) and millet (*Panicum* spp.).
3. Forage grasses including: blue grass (*Poa* spp.), brome grasses (*Bromus* spp.), canary grass (*Phalaris* spp.), fescues (*Festuca* spp.), orchard grass (*Dactylis* spp.), bent grass (*Agrostis* spp.), ryegrass (*Lolium* spp.), timothy (*Phleum* spp.), wheat grasses (*Agropyron* spp.) and wild rye (*Elymus* spp.).
4. Legume-grass mixes consisting of five percent or greater of regulated host species.

Material that is not regulated for cereal leaf beetle includes:

1. Hay or straw composed of greater than 95% non-host species including alfalfa (*Medicago* spp.), clover (*Trifolium* spp.) and sweet clover (*Melilotus* spp.).
2. Pelletized or cubed hay or straw.
3. Silage.
4. Small quantities of hay or straw carried in vehicles for in-transit use by animals.

Mushroom composting:

CFIA will issue import permits to Canadian residents to import hay and straw from Washington for cereal straw for mushroom composting.

Anyone shipping hay or straw to protected areas of Canada from Washington must have either:

1. An import permit issued by CFIA, or
2. A phytosanitary certificate issued by the Washington State Dept. of Agriculture (WSDA).

Protected areas of Canada include all of British Columbia except the regional districts of East Kootenay and Central Kootenay, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario west of Wawa or north of Highway 101, Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Yukon Territories.

WSDA will issue phytosanitary certificates with one of the following additional declarations and/or treatment for cereal leaf beetle:

1. From counties with cereal leaf beetle
 - a. “The material was baled at least 90 days prior to shipping and was stored in a manner to keep it dry since baling.”
 - b. “The material was compressed at a pressure equal to or greater than 105 kg/cm³.”
 - c. The acceptable treatment for regulated material is Phosphine gas (aluminum phosphide or magnesium phosphide) used in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations. The hay or straw must be safeguarded after treatment to prevent infestation with *Oulema melanopus*.
2. From other counties “The material originated from an area free from *Oulema melanopus* on the basis of official surveys.”

Obtaining a phytosanitary certificate:

Shippers may obtain a phytosanitary certificate from any of the contacts below. USDA-APHIS-PPQ officers or the WSDA inspector in Ellensburg must certify fumigations.

Contacts:

USDA-APHIS-PPQ Spokane Office
(509) 353-2950

USDA-APHIS-PPQ Ellensburg Office
(509) 925-1188

WSDA-Spokane
(509) 477-4796

WSDA-Yakima
(509) 225-2605

WSDA-Bellingham
(360) 676-6739

WSDA-Othello
(509) 488-2862

WSDA-Wenatchee
(509) 662-6161

WSDA-Ellensburg
(509) 962-7720

For additional information on hay or straw certification, call Tom Wessels WSDA Plant Services Program Manager, at (360) 902-1984.